

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://ceo.lacounty.gov

June 27, 2008

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

YVONNE B. BURKE Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

Fifth District

To:

Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

COUNTY CHANNEL TEST LAUNCH AND FOURTH FLOOR SPACE UPDATE

This memorandum provides an update on the progress regarding the County Channel and the fourth floor space, surrounding your Board's hearing room, associated with the County Channel studio, operations and staff.

County Channel

Consistent with the County Channel Plan, which your Board approved, we anticipate launching an "analog" version of the County Channel in the City of Santa Monica, to best-test the initial implementation of a County Channel on a small, manageable scale. The "soft launch" will occur on July 14, 2008 and reach about 24,000 Time Warner cable television households in Santa Monica. The "soft launch" is intended to ensure that we have ample opportunity to "get the bugs out" before publicizing our efforts.

The initial programming line-up will include the Board of Supervisors meetings replayed on Tuesday evenings and repeated on weekends; and within one month, we expect to carry the Board meetings <u>live</u> on Channel 75, as well as the scheduled replays on evenings and weekends. In addition, we will air existing programming from our County video library, featuring events, cultural arts and County destinations, produced by, for or about the County, with entities such as the Ford Amphitheater, Metro, and Experience LA, just to name a few. We also have a multitude of Public Service Announcements (PSAs) and short segments on an array of topics including public safety, recycling, public health and informational resources in our video library that we also will air. The programming will appear on the Santa Monica cable Channel 75. This is our initial effort, consistent with the County Channel Plan; and we will keep you updated when the County Channel is ready for further expansion throughout the County.

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Fourth Floor Space

After extensive outreach and interviews, an experienced team of architects, designers, mechanical/electrical/plumbing engineers, and network system integrators were retained under contract with Department of Public Works (DPW), to develop the Program Plan for the design and renovation of the fourth floor which will be the operational headquarters for the County Channel. The architectural and engineering team conducted interviews with the press and media currently occupying offices on the fourth floor, including the Los Angeles Daily News, Los Angeles Times, City News Service, and KNX, as well as with County technical and non-technical staff regarding their space requirements for the renovated fourth floor. In addition, the Building Manager of the Executive Office and Internal Services Department staff were interviewed to ensure system integration with the recent technological upgrades in the Board hearing room.

Following those meetings, the architectural team conferred and prepared a Preliminary Program that outlined the general spatial relationships and conceptual design in light of the needs articulated, available useable square footage, industry equipment standards, and County office standards. As we have done in the past, we will meet with the Press Deputies in your offices to discuss this newly developed Preliminary Program and the next steps. Also, within the next month, DPW will prepare an estimated budget to implement the next phase of design, engineering, demolition, construction and renovation; and we will advise your Board accordingly, after we have received and reviewed that estimated budget from DPW.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me or Susan Herman at (213) 974-6807 or sherman@ceo.lacounty.gov. We appreciate the support and efforts of your offices in advancing these projects.

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c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors County Counsel